

News from

Duwamish Superfund

yes, as scheduled arrange.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently placed a five-mile stretch of the Duwamish Waterway on the federal Superfund List. Superfund is a roster of the most toxic contaminated sites in the country. EPA is requiring extensive studies of the risks to people, fish and wildlife and will require the major contributors to the pollution to pay for its cleanup.

The Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS) will represent the industrial community on the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition. The coalition will provide community oversight for implementation of cleanup efforts conducted under the new federal "Superfund" designation for the Duwamish River.

The Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition will advocate for a cleanup that truly protects the river, its fish and wildlife, and the health of all of its people. It will be made up of community activists, environmental organizations and small businesses.

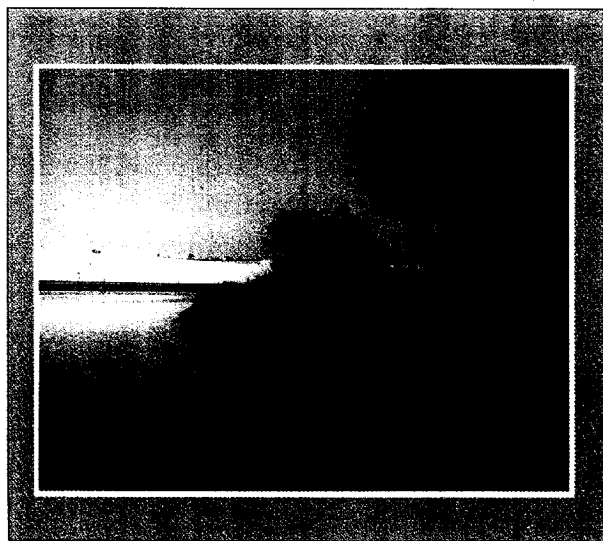
Boeing, the Port of Seattle, King County and the

City of Seattle have already been identified as major contributors, or potentially responsible parties (PRPs). Other industries on the river may be identified as PRPs in the future, as the long, slow process of assigning blame unfolds.

All of the responsible parties identified will ultimately have to foot the bill for the cleanup. But many questions remain — what studies will be done, what kind of cleanup will we get, and how clean is clean?

The biggest pollution problem in the river appears to be PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls. Other pollutants include oil, mercury, lead and other heavy metals, pesticides, arsenic and even raw sewage.

The cleanup likely will involve removing contaminated sediment from the river and adding clean fill. It also will involve stopping pollutants from leaching out of shoreline areas. The Superfund designation allows access to federal cleanup money administered by the EPA.



Brownfields Program

The King County/Seattle Brownfields Program offers assistance to businesses in assessing, cleaning up and redeveloping environmentally contaminated land, known as "brownfields." The Brownfields Program works with ECOSS to provide free technical assistance to businesses through the Environmental Extension Service (EES).

The Brownfields Program offers two low-cost loan funds: 1) the Assessment Loan Fund offers \$40,000 loans at 2% interest with no loan fees for 24 months; 2) the Cleanup Loan Fund offers \$425,000 loans at below-market interest with less than 2% loan fees for five or fewer years.

For more information, call Lucy Auster, King County Office of Regional Policy and Planning, (206) 205-0711 or visit www.metrokc.gov/exec/orpp/brownfields/.

ECOSS Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 15

John Iani, the new Region 10 EPA Administrator, is the featured speaker for the 5th annual ECOSS Thanksgiving dinner for members and supporters on Nov. 15th in South park. Mr. Iani joins EPA after many years in the maritime industry, most recently as UniSea's corporate-affairs vice president.

For more information about the dinner, call ECOSS at 206-767-0432.